(d) whether top executives of bank have been warned about such irregularities and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that Oriental Bank of Commerce had violated RBI instructions in respect of Stockinvest Scheme. The beneficiaries involved in the violations were Gujarat Lease Finance Ltd.,Suddhachal Securities Ltd., Kothari Finance and Investments Ltd. and Kandhari Texyarn Pvt. Ltd. The stockinvests were issued to these companies through some individuals by the Bank for subscribing to the public issue of the Bank as also another company.

(c) RBI has reported that it has imposed a penalty of Rs. 5 lakhs in the above case in 1998, which the Bank has paid to RBI.

(d) RBI has reported that the officials of the Bank involved in the above case have been suitably advised by the Bank.

Interaction Between LIC and Private Insurance Companies

2975. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the private insurance companies have initiated talks with LIC to accept data which the Corporation has developed over the years;

(b) what are the areas on which LIC has developed data base and the specific area of interest of private insurance companies; and

(c) how this sharing of information will help LIC and the private companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) has informed that no talks have been initiated with any private insurance company for sharing of data.

(b) The data base of LIC consists of the names and addresses of the policyholders and terms of acceptance of their proposals. This

data can be utilized for marketing purposes as well as for analysing the mortality investigation of assured lives.

(c) The above data could be useful to private companies in procuring further new business. However, if the data is utilized for Mortality Investigation, a life tabej. which can be used by all the companies of the country can be developed.

Restructuring of Customs and Excise Services in Orissa

2976. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total sanctioned strength for the customs and excise in Orissa;

(b) what is the sanctioned strength per commissionerate in Orissa and how does this compare with the other commissionerates in the country; and

(c) whether there is any proposal for cadre restructuring and addition of a number of commissionerate in the Country; if so, whether an additional commissionerate is being earmarked for Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY.OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) There are two Commissionerates of Customs and Central Excise in Orissa with the sanctioned strength of officers and staff as 446 and 336. The sanctioned strength of various Commissionerates in the country depends on their revenue potential, volume of work, topographical reasons etc.

(c) The Government has approved the cadre restructuring of Customs and Central Excise Department which also envisages increasing the number of Customs/Central Excise Commissionerates in the country. There is a proposal for setting up of a Chief Commissioner's office in Orissa in cadre re-structuring.